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NOV 14 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: G. OCKENFUSS et al.

Serial No.: 10/004,142

Filed: November 14, 2001

For: STRESS FREE AND THERMALLY STABILIZED
DIELECTRIC FILTER

Group Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: Unknown

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Honorable Sir:

Attached hereto is a substantial equivalent to Form PTO-1449 listing documents believed relevant to the subject application. It is respectfully requested that these documents be considered by the Examiner and initialed copy of each form the return to the undersigned.

This disclosure statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 (a) exists.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patents Examining Procedures § 609. If for some reason the Examiner considers otherwise, is respectfully requested that the undersigned be called for the deficiencies can be remedied.

Some of the documents may have markings thereon. No significance is meant to be attached to the markings.

These documents are not necessarily analogous art.

Other Comments:

Applicant recently became aware of enclosed citations via the EPO search report, which is also attached hereto, category X and Y citations listed on the attached PTO-1499 form, with copies enclosed. Abstracts of selected citations from category A (Technological background) from Patent Abstracts of Japan are also included for completeness, but not listed on the attached PTO-1499 form.

Respectfully submitted:

By: Edward Sherman on 11/8/2002

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on November, 8th, 2002

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence: Edward Sherman

Printed Name: EDWARD S. SHERMAN